

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A distributed digital television system comprising:

a plurality of discrete television sets; ~~and~~
~~_____~~, said plurality of discrete television sets comprising a
5 plurality of respective signal decoding arrangements for decoding
digital television signals for display at the television sets, a
said plurality of respective distributed-signal decoding
arrangements having respective cryptographic engines configured for
executing conditional access; ~~;~~ and
10 ~~_____ a network~~said system being configured for transferring,
~~over a network linking the plural plurality of discrete television~~
sets,
wherein said system is configured for transferring, over said
network ~~and~~ from a source from among said plurality of respective
15 signal decoding arrangements to a destination from among said
plurality of respective signal decoding arrangements, a decryption
key usable for conditional access by the respective cryptographic
engine of the destination signal decoding arrangement.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The distributed digital television
system as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ said network comprises a
television signal distribution network for delivering said digital
television signals to the plurality of discrete television sets.

3. (Currently Amended) A ~~The distributed digital television~~
system as claimed in claim ~~42~~, wherein said network includes
filters and radio frequency feeder cables mutually arranged to
selectively route said decryption key, ~~keys transferred in said~~
5 ~~transferring from said source to said destination~~, and said digital
television signals.

4. (Currently Amended) A ~~The distributed digital television~~
system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said distributed digital
television system is configured for performing said transferring to
transfer said decryption key under a separate cryptographic layer
5 of security.

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Cancelled).

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Currently Amended) A local digital television apparatus
including a digital signal decoding arrangement for receiving coded
digital television signals and including a conditional access
module ~~configured for the input and output of~~ inputting and
5 outputting decryption keys, said decryption keys serving to control
the decoding of the digital television signal either locally within

the apparatus by means of said conditional access module inputting the decryption keys, input or remotely at a further digital television apparatus by means of said output conditional access module outputting the decryption keys.

9. (Currently Amended) A digital television unit including:
means for inputting decoding authorization data so as to control, locally within the unit, the decoding of a coded digital television signal received, said means being further configured for
5 | ~~outputting decoding authorization data so as to remotely control decoding of a coded digital television signal received at~~ to another digital television unit, said outputted decoding authorization data controlling decoding of a coded digital television signal received at said another digital television unit; and

10 | a paired television set and digital decoding arrangement that includes demultiplexing means for splitting, from a received digital television signal, said decoding authorization data for local control.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling the distribution of digital television signals within a digital television system comprising a plurality of discrete television
| sets, said method comprising the steps of:

5 | decoding incoming television signals locally at each television set; and

distributing decoding authorization data between the
plural-plurality of discrete television sets;

wherein the distributing step comprises transferring a
decryption key from a conditional access module of a digital
decoding arrangement associated with one television set for
operation in association with a conditional access module of a
digital decoding arrangement associated with another television
set.

11. (Currently Amended) The distributed digital television
system ~~of as claimed in claim 1~~, wherein said transferring ~~of the~~
~~decryption key~~ step transfers the decryption key from a smart card
of said source signal decoding arrangement to a smart card of said
destination signal decoding arrangement.

12. (Currently Amended) The distributed digital television
system ~~of as claimed in claim 11~~, wherein said smart card includes
key management hardware ~~configured~~ for communicating with a radio
frequency local area network established between ones of said sets.

13. (Currently Amended) The distributed digital television
system ~~of as claimed in claim 1~~, wherein said plurality of discrete
television sets includes at least three television sets having said
respective ~~distributed~~ signal decoding arrangements, said
distributed digital television system being further configured for

said transferring from any one to any other of the at least three
respective signal decoding arrangements.

14. (Currently Amended) The distributed digital television
system ~~of as claimed in claim 1, wherein the distributed digital~~
television system is further configured so that said transferring
~~restricts display, the decryption key~~ at said source, ~~restricts~~
5 display of specific broadcasted content ~~whose while the decryption~~
key at said destination authorizes display of said transferring
~~authorizes at said destination~~ specific broadcasted content.

15. (Currently Amended) The distributed digital television
system ~~of as claimed in claim 14, wherein said plurality of~~
discrete television sets includes at least three television sets
having said respective ~~distributed~~ signal decoding arrangements,
5 said distributed digital television system being further configured
for said transferring, from any one to any other of the at least
three respective signal decoding arrangements, decryption keys with
the associated display restrictions and authorizations.

16. (Currently Amended) The local digital television apparatus
~~of as claimed in claim 8, wherein said local digital television~~
apparatus further comprising ~~comprises~~ a paired television set and
digital decoding arrangement, said digital decoding arrangement
5 including a cryptographic engine, ~~and further including both a~~
first demultiplexer for splitting decoding authorization data from

a received digital television signal to yield a remaining signal, and a second demultiplexer for dividing said remaining signal into separate signals for inputting into said cryptographic engine.

17. (Currently Amended) The local digital television apparatus ~~of as claimed in claim 8, wherein the local digital television apparatus is configured~~ so that ~~inputting the inputted decryption key locally~~ authorizes display, at the apparatus, of specific broadcasted content, said ~~inputting serving to input a inputted~~ decryption key having been outputted from said further apparatus, the ~~outputting outputted decryption key~~ restricting display of said content at said further apparatus.

18. (Previously Presented) A television system including both the local, and the further, digital television apparatus of claim 8.

19. (Currently Amended) The television system ~~of as claimed in~~ claim 18, configured so that inputting locally authorizes display, at the apparatus, of specific broadcasted content, said inputting serving to input a decryption key outputted from said further apparatus, the outputting restricting display of said content at said further apparatus, said television system being further configured conversely such that inputting a decryption key into said further apparatus authorizes display, at said further apparatus, of specific broadcasted content but restricts display of

10 said content at said local apparatus which has supplied said
decryption key.

20. (Currently Amended) The method ~~of~~as claimed in claim 10,
wherein said transferring of the decryption key transfers from a
smart card of said source arrangement to a smart card of said
destination arrangement.

21. (Currently Amended) The method ~~of~~as claimed in claim 20,
wherein said smart card includes key management hardware configured
for communicating with a radio frequency local area network
established between ones of said plurality of discrete television
5 sets.

22. (Currently Amended) The method ~~of~~as claimed in claim 10,
wherein said plurality of discrete television sets includes at
least three television sets having said respective ~~distributed~~
signal decoding arrangements, said digital television system being
5 further configured for said transferring from any one to any other
of the at least three respective signal decoding arrangements.